

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image communicating apparatus which is connected to a network capable of performing E-mail communication and has an E-mail communicating function,  
5 comprising:

E-mail transmitting means for sending E-mail data accompanied by an image file;

requesting means for requesting reply E-mail responsive to E-mail to be sent when the E-mail data is  
10 sent by said E-mail transmitting means;

communication managing means for managing transmission information of each of said sent E-mail data; and

control means for updating the transmission  
15 information which is managed by said communication managing means on the basis of a reception result of the reply E-mail responsive to said sent E-mail.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
20 said requesting means requests reply E-mail indicative of a message disposition notification of the E-mail to be sent.

3. An apparatus according to claim 1, further  
25 comprising selecting means for selecting ON/OFF of an execution of said requesting means,  
and wherein said communication managing means

09888547-100001

manages ON/OFF of the request of said reply E-mail as transmission information every sent E-mail.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
5 said control means updates the transmission information which is managed by said communication managing means to first information showing that the reply E-mail responsive to said sent E-mail has been received.

10 5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means updates the transmission information which is managed by said communication managing means to second information showing that the reply E-mail responsive to said sent E-mail is not received within a  
15 predetermined period of time.

6. An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising output means for visually outputting the transmission information which is managed by said  
20 communication managing means.

7. An image communicating apparatus which is connected to a network capable of performing E-mail communication and has an E-mail communicating function,  
25 comprising:

E-mail receiving means for receiving E-mail data accompanied by an image file;

0988547.10901

detecting means for detecting control information which requests reply E-mail from the E-mail data received by said E-mail receiving means; and

notifying means for notifying the detection of  
5 said control information by visualizing means or monitoring means.

8. An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said notifying means performs the notification before  
10 contents of the E-mail whose control information was detected are visually outputted.

9. An apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising output means for visually outputting  
15 contents of the image file attached to the received E-mail,

and wherein when the image file attached to the E-mail whose control information was detected is visually outputted, said notifying means adds information  
20 indicative of the detection of said control information to a part of said image.

10. An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein when the image file attached to the E-mail whose  
25 control information was detected is visually outputted, if the reply E-mail responsive to said control information has already been sent, said notifying means

09888547.100901

adds information indicative of a completion of a response to said control information to a part of said image.

5           11. An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said control information is information for requesting reply E-mail indicative of a message disposition notification of the E-mail.

10           12. An image communicating method in an image communicating apparatus which is connected to a network capable of performing E-mail communication and has an E-mail communicating function, comprising:

15           an E-mail transmitting step of sending E-mail data accompanied by an image file;

          a requesting step of requesting reply E-mail responsive to E-mail to be sent when the E-mail data is sent by said E-mail transmitting step;

20           a communication managing step of managing transmission information of each of said sent E-mail data; and

          a control step of updating the transmission information which is managed by said communication managing step on the basis of a reception result of the  
25           reply E-mail responsive to said sent E-mail.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein in

09882547.100901

said requesting step, reply E-mail indicative of a message disposition notification of the E-mail to be sent is requested.

5           14. A method according to claim 12, further comprising a selecting step of selecting ON/OFF of an execution of said requesting step,

              and wherein in said communication managing step, ON/OFF of the request of said reply E-mail is managed  
10       as transmission information every sent E-mail.

              15. A method according to claim 12, wherein in said control step, the transmission information which is managed by said communication managing step is  
15       updated to first information showing that the reply E-mail responsive to said sent E-mail has been received.

              16. A method according to claim 12, wherein in said control step, the transmission information which  
20       is managed by said communication managing step is updated to second information showing that the reply E-mail responsive to said sent E-mail is not received within a predetermined period of time.

25           17. A method according to claim 12, further comprising an outputting step of visually outputting the transmission information which is managed by said

09882547.100901

communication managing step.

18. An image communicating method in an image communicating apparatus which is connected to a network  
5 capable of performing E-mail communication and has an E-mail communicating function, comprising:

an E-mail receiving step of receiving E-mail data accompanied by an image file;

a detecting step of detecting control information  
10 which requests reply E-mail from the E-mail data received by said E-mail receiving step; and

a notifying step of notifying the detection of said control information by visualizing means or monitoring means.

15 19. A method according to claim 18, wherein in said notifying step, the notification is performed before contents of the E-mail whose control information was detected are visually outputted.

20 20. A method according to claim 18, further comprising an output step of visually outputting contents of the image file attached to the received E-mail,

25 and wherein in said notifying step, when the image file attached to the E-mail whose control information was detected is visually outputted, information

09888547.100901  
106001" 7458860

indicative of the detection of said control information is added to a part of said image.

21. A method according to claim 20, wherein in  
5 said notifying step, when the image file attached to the E-mail whose control information was detected is visually outputted, if the reply E-mail responsive to said control information has already been sent,  
information indicative of a completion of a response to  
10 said control information is added to a part of said image.

22. A method according to claim 19, wherein said control information is information for requesting reply  
15 E-mail indicative of a message disposition notification of the E-mail.

23. A computer program which is executed by a computer of an image communicating apparatus which is  
20 connected to a network capable of performing E-mail communication and has an E-mail communicating function, comprising:

an E-mail transmitting step of sending E-mail data accompanied by an image file;  
25 a requesting step of requesting reply E-mail responsive to E-mail to be sent when the E-mail data is sent by said E-mail transmitting step;

09888547-100901

a communication managing step of managing transmission information of each of said sent E-mail data; and

a control step of updating the transmission  
5 information which is managed by said communication managing step on the basis of a reception result of the reply E-mail responsive to said sent E-mail.

24. A computer program which is executed by a  
10 computer of an image communicating apparatus which is connected to a network capable of performing E-mail communication and has an E-mail communicating function, comprising:

an E-mail receiving step of receiving E-mail data  
15 accompanied by an image file;

a detecting step of detecting control information which requests reply E-mail from the E-mail data received by said E-mail receiving step; and

a notifying step of notifying the detection of  
20 said control information by visualizing means or monitoring means.

25 25. A computer-readable memory medium which stores a computer program according to claim 23.

26. A computer-readable memory medium which stores a computer program according to claim 24.

09388547-100901



27. An image communicating apparatus for sending and receiving image information through a public line network, comprising:

E-mail means for sending and receiving E-mail via  
5 an E-mail server enclosed in a communication network;

memory means for storing communication management information of said E-mail;

communication management information forming means  
for, each time said E-mail is sent by said E-mail  
10 means, forming communication management information of said sent E-mail and storing it into said memory means;

updating means for, when a delivery status notification for said sent E-mail from said E-mail server is received by said E-mail means, updating  
15 contents of the communication management information of said E-mail which received said delivery status notification in accordance with said received delivery status notification; and

communication management report output means for  
20 outputting a communication management report indicative of the communication management information stored in said memory means.

28. An apparatus according to claim 27, wherein  
25 said communication management information includes a transmission result of said sent E-mail, and said updating means updates the transmission result of the

09888547.100901

communication management information of the E-mail which received said delivery status notification in accordance with said received delivery status notification.

5

29. An apparatus according to claim 28, wherein said delivery status notification for said sent E-mail from said E-mail server is a notification showing one of a "failed" notification, "delayed", "normal end of transmission", and "relayed" as a transmission result of said sent E-mail.

10

30. An apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising discriminating means for discriminating whether the delivery status notification for said sent E-mail from said E-mail server has been received by said E-mail means after the elapse of a predetermined period of time from the transmission of said E-mail or not,

15

and wherein if it is determined by said discriminating means that the delivery status notification for said sent E-mail from said E-mail server has been received, said updating means updates the transmission result of the communication management information of the E-mail which received the delivery status notification in accordance with said received delivery status notification, and

20

25

09888547.100901

said communication management report output means outputs a communication management report in which said transmission result was updated as a communication management report of said sent E-mail.

5

31. An apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein if it is determined by said discriminating means that the delivery status notification for said sent E-mail from said E-mail server is not received, said communication management report output means outputs a communication management report in which the transmission result of said sent E-mail has successfully been finished.

10

15

32. An image communicating apparatus for sending and receiving image information through a public line network, comprising:

E-mail means for sending and receiving E-mail via an E-mail server enclosed in a communication network;

20

analyzing means for, when a delivery status notification returned from said E-mail server in response to the E-mail transmitted by said E-mail means is received, analyzing contents of said received delivery status notification; and

25

error notification information output means for, when it is detected by the analysis of said analyzing means that said received delivery status notification

09888547.100901

is a transmission error notification of said sent E-mail, outputting error notification information indicative of a transmission error of said sent E-mail.

5           33. An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said error notification information output means comprises means for generating a warning sound as said error notification information.

10           34. An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said error notification information output means comprises means for printing and outputting said error notification information.

15           35. An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said error notification information output means comprises means for displaying said error notification information.

20           36. An image communicating apparatus for performing a facsimile transmission through a provider enclosed in a public line network, comprising:

communicating means which can selectively execute a plurality of communicating functions for performing  
25   the facsimile transmission through said provider; and  
communication management information forming means for, when the facsimile transmission is executed

0988547.108901

through said provider by each of said communicating functions, forming communication management information of said facsimile transmission,

wherein with respect to the facsimile transmission  
5 by a specific one of said communicating functions, said communication management information forming means forms communication management information describing the fact that it is necessary to confirm a communication result of said facsimile transmission.

10 37. An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein each of said communicating functions is a communicating function according to each of the ITU-T recommendation T.30, T.37, and T.38, and said specific communicating  
15 function is a communicating function according to the ITU-T recommendation T.37.

20 38. A communication result managing method which is used in an image communicating apparatus which can perform a transmission and a reception of E-mail through an E-mail server enclosed in a communication network, comprising the steps of:

each time the E-mail is sent, forming  
communication management information of said sent E-  
25 mail and storing it into memory means;

when a delivery status notification for said sent E-mail from said E-mail server is received, updating

0388547.100901

contents of the communication management information of said E-mail which received said delivery status notification in accordance with said received delivery status notification; and

5           outputting a communication management report indicative of the communication management information stored in said memory means.

39. A communication result managing method which  
10       is used in an image communicating apparatus having a plurality of communicating functions for performing a facsimile transmission through a provider enclosed in a public line network, comprising the steps of:

              when the facsimile transmission is executed  
15       through said provider by each of said communicating functions, forming communication management information of said facsimile transmission,

              adding information showing the fact that it is necessary to confirm a communication result of said  
20       facsimile transmission to the communication management information of the facsimile transmission by a specific one of said communicating functions.

40. A computer program for a communication result  
25       management which is used when it is executed by a computer of an image communicating apparatus which can perform a transmission and a reception of E-mail

00883547-100901

through an E-mail server enclosed in a communication network, comprising the steps of:

each time the E-mail is sent, forming communication management information of said sent E-mail and storing it into memory means;

when a delivery status notification for said sent E-mail from said E-mail server is received, updating contents of the communication management information of said E-mail which received said delivery status notification in accordance with said received delivery status notification; and

outputting a communication management report indicative of the communication management information stored in said memory means.

41. A computer program for a communication result management which is used when it is executed by a computer of an image communicating apparatus having a plurality of communicating functions for performing a facsimile transmission through a provider enclosed in a public line network, comprising the steps of:

when the facsimile transmission is executed through said provider by each of said communicating functions, forming communication management information of said facsimile transmission,

adding information showing the fact that it is necessary to confirm a communication result of said

09888547-100901

facsimile transmission to communication management information of the facsimile transmission by a specific one of said communicating functions.

5           42. A computer-readable memory medium which stores a computer program according to claim 39.

          43. A computer-readable memory medium which stores a computer program according to claim 40.

09888547.100901